

# Irish Roman Catholic Protest against Home Rule.

The following letter and form of petition are being extensively circulated among Roman Catholics in Ireland :—

## “TO OUR FELLOW ROMAN CATHOLICS IN IRELAND.

“As a false impression has been created that the contest upon the Home Rule Bill is, in reality, only a contest between a Roman Catholic majority and a Protestant minority, we have thought it right, in order to make their position clear, that Irish Roman Catholic Unionists should have an opportunity of joining in a separate and distinct petition to Parliament against the Bill.

“While deprecating certain anti-Catholic utterances to which the excitement of the moment may have given rise, we are, so far as our objections to Home Rule rest upon purely secular considerations, heartily in accord with our fellow Unionists. More than this, we believe that Home Rule, if imposed upon Ireland, would, under the peculiar conditions of the country, foster a revolutionary spirit disastrous to the true interests of our religion.

“We therefore invite our fellow Roman Catholics in Ireland to join us in signing the petition, a copy of which is appended to this letter.

(Signed)

Fingall, Killeen Castle, Co. Meath.

Kenmare, Killarney House, Co. Kerry.

Louth, Louth Hall, Ardee.

Emly, Tervoe, Limerick.

De Freyne, Frenchpark, Roscommon.

Westmeath, Pallas, Co. Galway.

Count de la Poer, D.L., Gurteen, Co. Waterford.

John Harold Barry, Cork.

C. W. Bellew, Dunleer, Co. Meath.

Henry Grattan Bellew, Bart., Mount Bellew, Co. Galway.

J. Ross of Bladensburg, Rostrevor House, Co. Down.

John V. Cassidy, 53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin.

W. H. F. Cogan, P.C., Tinode, Co. Dublin.

F. R. Cruise, M.D., 93 Merrion Square, Dublin.

Stephen de Vere, Bart., D.L., Foynes, Limerick.

Edmund Dease, D.L., Rath House, Ballybrittas, Queen's Co.

Gerald Dease (Colonel), The Abbey, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.

John Arthur Farrell, D.L., Moynalty, Co. Meath.

Taaffe Ferrall, D.L., 73 Merrion Square, Dublin.  
 Percy R. Grace, Bart., D.L., Boley, Monkstown, Co. Dublin.  
 R. Ashurst Gradwell, Dowth Hall, Co. Meath.  
 Stephen Grehan, D.L., Clonmeen, Banteer, Co. Cork.  
 William Kenny, M.P., 35 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin.  
 J. MacDermott, J.P., Ramore, Ballinasloe.  
 Charles Martin, 12 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin.  
 Richard Martin, Bart., 81 Merrion Square, Dublin.  
 Maurice Murray, D.L., Beech Hill, Cork.  
 Thomas Moore Madden, M.D., 55 Merrion Square, Dublin.  
 Maurice O'Connell, Bart., Lakeview, Co. Kerry.  
 Daniel O'Connell, D.L., Derrynane, Co. Kerry.  
 A. More O'Ferrall, D.L., Balyna, Enfield, Co. Meath.  
 Philip O'Reilly, D.L., Coolamber, Co. Westmeath.  
 James Talbot Power, D.L., Leopardstown Park, Co. Dublin.  
 R. J. Rice, J.P., Bushmount, Lixnaw, Co. Kerry.  
 John Smithwick, D.L., Kilcreen Lodge, Kilkenny.  
 Nicholas Synnott, Lincoln's Inn, London.  
 John Sugrue, D.L., 9 Sidney Place, Cork.  
 J. H. Talbot, Castle Talbot, Enniscorthy.  
 John White, D.L., Nantenan, Co. Limerick.  
 Piers F. White, Q.C., 12 Fitzwilliam Square East, Dublin.  
 John J. Whyte, D.L., Loughbrickland House, Co. Down.

109 GRAFTON STREET,  
 DUBLIN.

MARTIN BURKE, } *Hon. Secs.*  
 RICHARD FARRELL, }

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"TO THE HONOURABLE THE COMMONS  
 OF  
 THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND  
 IRELAND IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.  
 "THE HUMBLE PETITION OF ROMAN CATHOLICS  
 IN IRELAND

SHEWETH—

- "That we entertain unshaken allegiance and devotion to the Crown and Constitution under which we live and enjoy full civil and religious liberty.
- "That we regard the maintenance of the Union between England and Ireland as a necessary safeguard of that liberty.
- "That we believe the establishment in Ireland of a separate Legislature and Executive in the manner proposed in the Government of Ireland Bill recently introduced into your Honourable House would be most prejudicial to our religion, and disastrous to the best interests of Ireland.
- "We beseech your Honourable House to reject the said Bill.
- "And your Petitioners will ever pray."

